

RESOLUTIONS

H.C.R. 265

design was presented to then Governor Mark White at the crowning of the Texas Bluebonnet Queen; and

WHEREAS, The fabric has since been sold in many parts of the world where Texans have wandered; and

WHEREAS, People of Scottish descent played a major role in the settlement and development of Texas and it is appropriate to recognize this Scottish heritage by designating an official tartan of the state; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 71st Legislature of the State of Texas hereby recognize the Texas Bluebonnet Tartan as the Official Tartan of Texas.

Schlueter

Adopted by the House on May 19, 1989, by a non-record vote. Adopted by the Senate on May 25, 1989.

Approved May 29, 1989.

Filed with the Secretary of State, May 31, 1989.

H.C.R. No. 246

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The friendship and commerce program in the form of the sister city concept was inaugurated by the president of the United States in 1956 to establish greater friendship and understanding between the people of the United States and other nations through the medium of direct personal contact; and

WHEREAS, All succeeding United States presidents have endorsed this program, conducted for the broad purpose of exchanging ideas between the citizens of this state and the United States and the people of other nations; and

WHEREAS, Not only do the peoples of various African nations and of the State of Texas share the desire to improve their quality of life, they also have in common the hard work and industriousness that make each established trading participants in the Western Hemisphere; and

WHEREAS, A friendship and commerce relationship between the supervening list of African nations and the State of Texas is in the best interest for all parties concerned; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 71st Legislature of the State of Texas, on behalf of the people of Texas, hereby invite the peoples of the United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Togo, Gabonese Republic, Republic of Zambia, Republic of Zaire, Republic of Cameroun, Republic of Djibouti, People's Republic of the Congo, Republic of Sierra Leone, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Republic of the Gambia, Republic of Kenya, Republic of Senegal, Republic of Mali, and the Republic of Ivory Coast to conduct mutually beneficial social, economic, educational, and cultural programs in order to bring our citizens closer together and strengthen international understanding and goodwill; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That official copies of this resolution be prepared and forwarded to the respective leaders of the aforementioned nations as an expression of the sentiment of the Texas Legislature.

Larry

Hudson of Dallas

Adopted by the House on May 22, 1989, by a non-record vote. Adopted by the Senate on May 28, 1989.

Approved June 14, 1989.

Filed with the Secretary of State, June 16, 1989.

H.C.R. No. 265

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The Catastrophic Coverage Act, as passed by the United States Congress, was intended to provide improved Medicare benefits that would protect the elderly from a choice "between bankruptcy and death" in cases of catastrophic illness; and

6393

WHEREAS, The method of financing these benefits includes a surtax that will be imposed on over 40 percent of our nation's senior citizens; and

WHEREAS, Many original supporters of the legislation are now reevaluating their position in recognition of the fact that the funding formula is highly prejudicial to our citizens over 64 years of age; and

WHEREAS, There is additional concern that the surtax provision places an undue burden on our senior citizens, for they will have the highest effective tax rates of any group of taxpayers; even modest incomes of \$12,700 for a single person and \$21,100 for a married couple will be burdened with the new tax; and

WHEREAS, The revenue generated by the surtax on senior citizens will go to finance benefits that few senior citizens will actually use; and

WHEREAS, The Legislature of the State of Texas is persuaded that undue hardship will be caused to many elderly citizens of this state if the surtax provision of the Catastrophic Coverage Act is implemented as currently proposed; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 71st Legislature of the State of Texas hereby memorialize the Congress of the United States to reconsider the surtax provision of the Catastrophic Coverage Act and make every effort to ensure that the interests of senior citizens are truly served by this legislation; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the speaker of the house of representatives, to the president of the senate of the United States Congress, and to all members of the Texas delegation to the congress, with the request that this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

VanderVoort

Adopted by the House on May 22, 1989, by a non-record vote. Adopted by the Senate on May 28, 1989.

Approved June, 14, 1989.

Filed with the Secretary of State, June 16, 1989.

H.C.R. No. 266

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The incidence of youth suicide in the United States continues to rise at an alarming rate; studies indicate that between 1960 and 1985, the number of suicides among 15- to 19-year-olds increased by 178 percent; and

WHEREAS, Some 5,000 teens commit suicide each year in the United States; suicide is the second-leading cause of death among people 15 to 24 years of age, with youth suicide rates in Texas exceeding the national average; and

WHEREAS, Research indicates that suicide, particularly among young people, is often preventable; factors that place children and adolescents at risk for suicide have been identified, and young people at risk for suicide typically exhibit recognizable warning signs; and

WHEREAS, Early identification of suicidal tendencies and appropriate intervention provide an effective means of preventing young people from taking their own lives; school personnel can play a critical role in preventing youth suicide by identifying warning signals, notifying parents, referring the family to services in the community, and helping to monitor the at-risk student; and

WHEREAS, The State Board of Education is authorized to determine by rule the subject areas that shall be included in required teacher inservice training and preparation, pursuant to Section 11.207, Education Code, as added by Chapter 848, Acts of the 70th Legislature, Regular Session, 1987; now, therefore, be it